First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

May 8, 2022
10:00 am

“Life-giving Acts”
4th Sunday of Easter
Mother’s Day/Faithful Family Day

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Zoom Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

a just world for all
ucc.org

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud **JOSHUA CANTANIA**

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

RINGING THE BELL **MARTY KLEINO**

WELCOME **PASTOR LIZ**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS **BARBARA GARLAND**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCMENTS:**
  - The Worship Leader will introduce Roomie Greeter, **Patty Sherwood**, and Zoomie greeter, **Dan Kidder-McQuown**.
  - The Greeters will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - If you are a Roomie, please come to the pulpit/podium to make your announcement or use the handheld microphone offered by the Roomie Greeter so all can hear. Please do the same when offering a prayer request.
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Sing to God"
23 SING

CALL TO WORSHIP **BARBARA GARLAND**

Leader: Day by day, God leads us:

People: To the deep, deep pools of peace, to the green, lush lawns of grace.

Leader: Day by day, Jesus calls us:

People: To pour out ourselves in service, to anoint the stranger with hope.

Leader: Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

People: The community we could be, the family we are called to become.

HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Now the Green Blade Rises"
238 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

FIRST READING **Psalm 23** **BARBARA GARLAND**

SECOND READING **Acts 9:36-43** **PASTOR LIZ**

HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"My Shepherd is the Living God"
247 NCH

MORNING MESSAGE **"Love Your Enemies"** **PASTOR LIZ**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording

*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone
*Roomies: Please come to the pulpit/podium or use the hand-held microphone so all can hear.

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **PASTOR LIZ**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER (Unison) *Microphone muted **PASTOR LIZ**

**To the God who births, protects, provides, sustains, who fixes what is broken,
heals, brings death to life, reminds of us rebirth:
In our desire for a better world, we dare to compare ourselves to you.
We think we could do better; we wish we could fix everything with a powerful word.
But daily you remind us, this life that is, is too complex for us to fully comprehend.
We stumble over the most basic expectations placed upon us.
Thank you for providing second chances, new starts, recovery, and rebirth.
As we step closer to death, we are wiser to our own limitations,
and appreciate the infinite wisdom you provide in silence, meditation,
everyday life, and eventful happenings.
Whether it is a small, quiet whisper, or a cry from all creation,
we see your providence in every aspect of our lives.
Guide us now as we dare to lose our way, as we choose to take different routes,
break into the unknown, and struggle to find our way forward.
Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY INVITATION **PASTOR LIZ**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Please place in-person offerings in the gold offertory plate on the table by the door.

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198
Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"** **JOSHUA CANTANIA**

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Take My Gifts" v.2 562 NCH

Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,
Tang of risk and new adventure, taset and zest beyond belief.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **BARBARA GARLAND**

There are those who have no place to rest, may our gifts provide shelter.
There are those who are parched for justice, may our generosity quench their thirst.
There are those who wander the streets alone and afraid, may our blessings provide a way.
There are those who are in the valleys of suffering,
May we offer ourselves as companions on the journey. Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Dream God's Dream"
120 SING

BENEDICTION (RESPONSIVE) **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: Gathered for worship, we are now sent to work,

People: To find God in all the broken places and serve with healing and hope.

Leader: Having gathered in silence, we are now sent to speak,

People: To share the words of Jesus about justice and inclusion for all.

Leader: Gathered for prayer, we are now sent to live,

People: To take goodness and mercy and anoint everyone with these gifts of the Spirit.

Leader: Amen.

People: Amen.

POSTLUDE *Please remain seated **JOSHUA CANTANIA**

"Softly and Tenderly" by, Will Thompson

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Hybrid (In-person & Zoom) Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Joshua Cantania, Accompanist

Jenn Zibbell, Seminary Intern
Barbara Garland, Worship Leader
Patty Sherwood, Roomie Greeter
Dan Kidder-McQuown, Zoomie Greeter
Marty Kleino, Usher & Bell Ringer
Melanie Harner, Technical Coordinator
Covid Health Advisor, Patty Sherwood

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** Photo by Ray Hennessy on Unsplash
- **Call to Worship:** Written by Thom Shuman on *lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2016/04*
- **Prayer of Dedication:** Adapted from Thom Shuman on *lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2019/05*
- **Disciples Prayer:** Jenn Zibbell
- **Benediction:** Written by Thom Shuman on *lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2019/05*
- **Hymn Profiles:** *The New Century Hymnal Companion.* Pilgrim Press 1999.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship next week: Jenn Zibbell, Worship Leader; Sue Schuon, Room Greeter; Dan Kidder-McQuon, Zoom Greeter

This week's Community Discernment Gatherings are scheduled for:

- **Today: Sunday, May 8--Sidetracks in Ypsilanti from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm** in the private dining room (near the back porch) 52 E Cross Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48198. https://www.sidetrackbarandgrill.com/
- **Tuesday, May 10 –Zoom Only from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm** using the church zoom meeting number.
- **We will be covering any additional church memories (Chapter 5) folks would like to share and Chapter 6 (Pg 113-131): "Clarifying Purpose: Who do We Choose To Be?" Tell Me Our Story"** from Susan Beaumont's *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going: Leading in a Liminal Season.*
- **The last official session of our community discernment book study will meet at Sidetracks on May 15 11:30 am at and on Zoom on May 17 at 6:00 pm to cover Chapter 7 (Pg 133-158).**
- **Beginning in June via Zoom, we will discuss the key discernment takeaways from both book study groups and begin the in-depth work of learning to deepen our discerning stance, shaping memories, and clarifying values.**

Pastor Liz On Vacation in May: Pastor Liz will be on vacation for 2 weeks beginning May 18 through May 31. Look for more information in next week's bulletin detailing Pastoral Care coverage during this period.

Pastor Liz's Summer Schedule: Except in the event of a Pastoral Emergency, Pastor Liz will be working remotely and leading worship on Zoom May 15 – September 15. Look for more information in next week's bulletin detailing both non-emergency and emergency Pastoral Care coverage during this period.

Thank you to Tad Wysor and Donna Eyster: Thank you to both Tad and Donna. Tad will be our guest preacher on May 22nd and Donna will bring the message on May 29th. Thank you both for sharing your faith and gifts with us.

Eric Banitt – Eric, our former accompanist, was awarded the **Albert A. Stanley Medal** when he graduated from the University of Michigan last weekend, earning a BFA in Jazz Studies. *The Albert A. Stanley Metal is awarded to a single graduating senior who,…has been most out-outstanding in their field, with special consideration given to scholarship and public performance.* Eric joins the Broadway traveling company of ***Lion King*** later this month as lead pianist.

Summer Zoom Only Worship: Church Council made the decision to move to Zoom Only Sunday worship (no in-person) for the summer beginning May 29 through September 11.

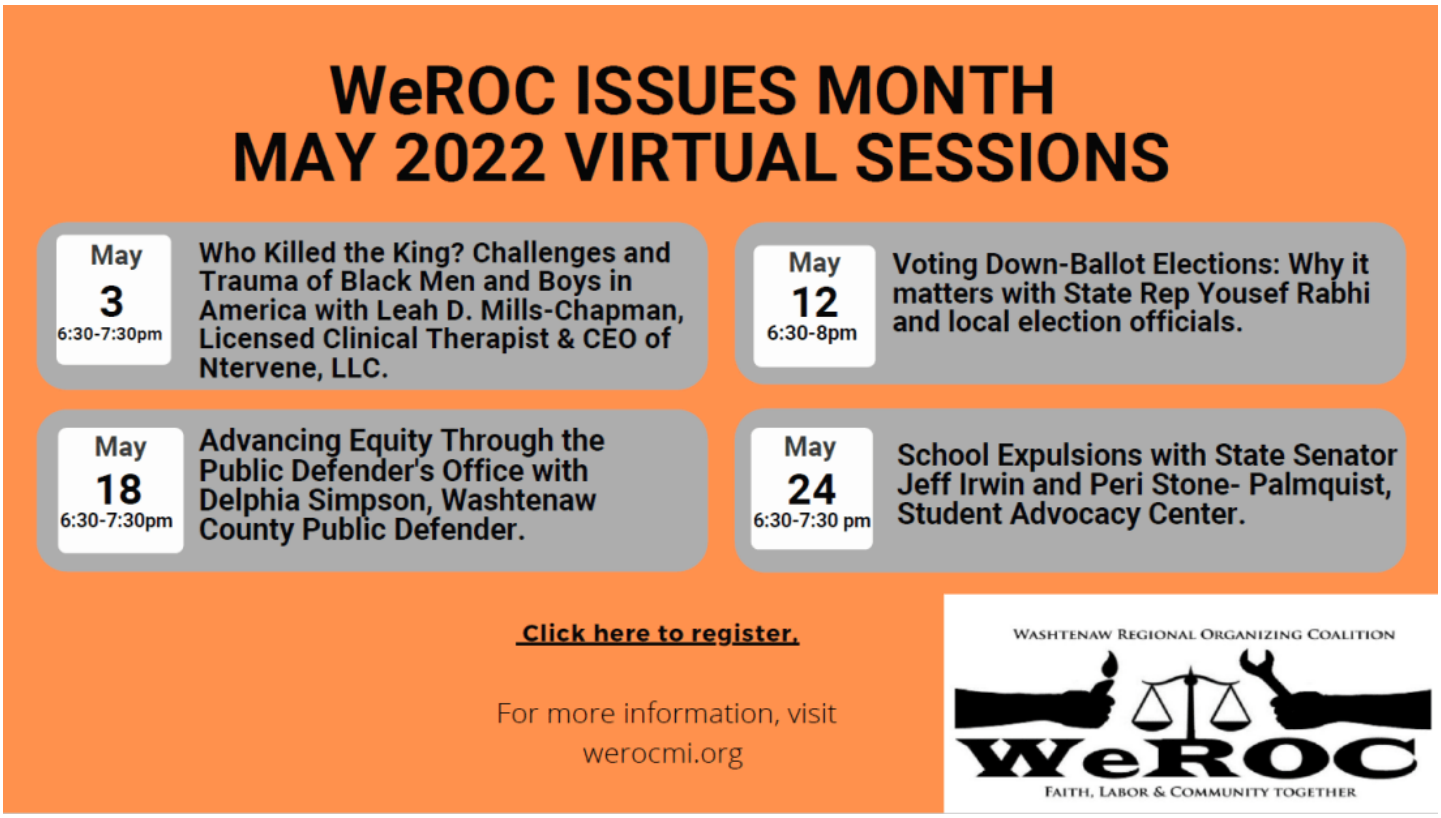
Fall Hybrid Worship Kick-Off Sunday: September 18. Combined Zoom and in- person worship will resume in our sanctuary on Sunday, September 18 at 10:00 am.

Fall Pet Blessing Ceremony: September 25 at 2:00 pm: This fun family and pet friendly service will be held outdoors (weather permitting) in the park next to the church. UCC Member in Discernment (MID) and Seminary Intern, Jenn Zibbell, is team leader for this service. Please contact Jenn if you would like to help with planning and hosting. More details will be announced over the summer.

Kroger Fundraiser: Have you registered your Kroger card? We get a small check every quarter for purchases made using your card when it's registered. It's a simple process. Go to Kroger.com and click "**Register**" and follow the prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link tothe **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83262**, or you can find our name in the drop-down list. Any Questions: contact Barbara Garland at bargarland@yahoo.comor 734-662-5803

Exciting news from WeROC: During the month of May WeROC (Wastenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) is scheduling four virtual events to give all of us, and the wider community, the opportunity to learn more about the 4 WeROC initiatives identified as priorities for the coming year. We urge everyone to attend any, or all, of these Webinars to learn more about the impact WeROC is making in our community. WeROC is one of the outreach ministry areas. See below.
Washtenaw County decision makers will share information and respond to questions from local citizens in a series of four issues-based virtual panel discussions and audience Q&As. May 3, 12, 18, 24 at 6:30 pm.

Click here to register. For details on each session, click **here**. And download and share the event flyer **here**.


WeROC ISSUES MONTH
MAY 2022 VIRTUAL SESSIONS
May 3 6:30-7:30pm
Who Killed the King? Challenges and Trauma of Black Men and Boys in America with Leah D. Mills-Chapman, Licensed Clinical Therapist & CEO of Ntervene, LLC.
May 12 6:30-8pm
Voting Down-Ballot Elections: Why it matters with State Rep Yousef Rabhi and local election officials.
May 18 6:30-7:30pm
Advancing Equity Through the Public Defender's Office with Delphia Simpson, Washtenaw County Public Defender.
May 24 6:30-7:30 pm
School Expulsions with State Senator Jeff Irwin and Peri Stone- Palmquist, Student Advocacy Center.
Click here to register.
For more information, visit werocmi.org
WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION
WeROC
FAITH, LABOR & COMMUNITY TOGETHER

OUR CHURCH'S MISSIONS

THE BEACON CENTER

The **Beacon Center** is the newest community social justice of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC. As a light to all persons, the Beacon Center's ministry will support the spiritual formation, creative expression, overall thriving and advocacy of at-risk students of all ages, including those affiliated with three primary local institutions of higher learning: Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College and University of Michigan. In the Spirit of the UCC moto, "That They All Shall Be One", Beacon Center serves as a uniting and unifying umbrella across our congregation serving persons sources through our three other community social justice ministry networks. Those ministries (each detailed below) include WICIR (Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights) serving the immigrant communities, MI-ONA (Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition) serving LGTBQ+ persons, and WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) which brings together faith, labor and community organizations to address local issues.

The Beacon Center is committed to advocate for self-determination and education for all people, especially students living in poverty, persons of color experiencing racism, and other de-humanizing circumstances and conditions. Beacon Center's student demographics include persons of color, immigrants, minorities, LGTBQ+ folk, women, those with special needs, the economically disadvantaged, those facing housing insecurity, the financially challenged, and the working poor. For additional information on the Beacon Center, please contact Rev. Liz Larrivee at lizlarrivee@gmail.com

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

1/2

23 Sing to God

Words and Music: James F. D. Martin, Copyright ©1996. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
This arrangement: The Praise Song Advisory Team, Copyright ©2009 Local Church Ministries, United Church of Christ. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Piano Arrangement: Thomas Fosnocht, Copyright ©2009. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

11
Am7 Gsus2/B Asus2/C♯ D D7 G
Let the friends of Je - sus say: Sing to God
God's pure love can make us whole.
grace to know and faith to share.
fill our hearts as ev - er we:
15
D/G G C/G
songs of praise, joy - ful a - dor - a - tion.
18
G D/G G D7 G
Sing to God songs of praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Now the Green Blade Rises

238

John M. C. Crum, 1928; alt.

Matt. 27:57–28:7; Luke 23:50–24:12

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain;
2 In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,
3 Christ came forth at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,
Wheat that in dark earth for man - y days has lain;
Think - ing that their Love would nev - er wake a - gain,
Je - sus, who for three days in the grave had lain,
Christ's warm touch can call us back to life a - gain,
Love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:
Quick from the dead the ris - en One is seen:
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Refrain
Love is come a - gain like wheat that ris - es green.

John M. C. Crum, an English priest who was canon of Canterbury for fifteen years, wrote these words for this ancient French Christmas carol tune when it was included in the Oxford Book of Carols *(1928).*

Tune: NOËL NOUVELET 11.10.10.11.
French noel, 15th century
Harm. Martin F. Shaw, 1928

Words and harmonization Copyright ©, Oxford University Press.

247 My Shepherd Is the Living God

Ps. 23; John 10:11, 27–30

Composite from Thomas Sternhold, 1549, and Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

C G C G7 C F G F C
1 My shep-herd is the liv - ing God, I there-fore noth-ing need;
2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;
Am G C F G Am G7 C G C
In pas - tures fair, near pleas - ant streams you set - tle me to feed.
A word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.
C F C Dm G C Am Dm Am FM7
You bring my wan-dering spir - it back when I for-sake your ways,
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers come and go—
Em C Am Dm Am Em C G7 C
And lead me for your mer - cy's sake in paths of truth and grace.
My cup with bless-ings o - ver-flows, your oil a - noints my head.
No more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

Isaac Watts, London's leading Congregational minister, wrote more than 600 hymns. His paraphrase of Psalm 23 has been altered here by combining a few phrases from Thomas Sternhold, a sixteenth-century English hymnwriter who also wrote metrical psalm texts.

Tune: CONSOLATION C.M.D.
Southern Harmony, *1835*
Harm. Erik Routley, 1976
Alternate tune: CRIMOND (Each stanza above becomes two stanzas.)

RESPOND

120 Dream God's Dream

1/2

♩.=69
D C G D C G D Em7
Dream God's dream! Ho-ly
D/F♯ G Bm7
Spir - it help us dream of a world where there is
F♯m7 G Em7 A A/G
jus - tice and where ev - 'ry one is free to
D/F♯ G Bm7 A
build and grow and love, and to sim - ply have e -
G D/F♯ Em7 Asus A7 D
Last time to Coda
-nough. The world will change, when we dream God's dream.
C G D C G D C G
1. I'm dream-ing of a world where the col - or of one's
2. I'm dream-ing of the call God is of - fer-ing to
3. I'm dream-ing of the way that I want my life to
D C Em7 D
skin will mean less than what's with - in the per - son's heart.
me, how to use my en - er - gy and my best gifts;
go. I've got hope and I've got goals I'd like to meet.

120

2/2

C G/B D C
A world where wa - ter's clean and where
to do the work of Christ to say
I'm reach - ing for the stars, but I
G D Em7
air is safe to breathe. And ev - 'ry chi - ld
God, please use my life to spread Your heal - ing
won't for - get the scars of Christ who died to
D/F♯ Em7 G Asus D
Coda
born has e - nough to eat. dream.
love and to live Your truth.
show that the dream's for all.

Words and Music: Bryan Sirchio
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